

S

The Shakerite

September 19, 2012 // Volume 83 // Issue 2

Football Team Dazzles in Early Contests

Page 14



Pages 8-9

New Turf and Track?

Shaker's Back

Freeman Announces Retirement



Mark Freeman

After 25 years with the district, Superintendent Mark Freeman has announced

he will retire at the end of this school year. "It has been an honor to serve Shaker," Freeman said in an email sent to faculty and staff.

Read more on page 3.

That App's Not So Common After All



While applying to college, Opinion Editor Sam Weisner takes on the myth of

the universal and super convenient Common Application.

Read more on page 7



Techn!color Takes Off

Four Shaker juniors did not start out as friends, but their diverse musical interests have made them a tightly-knit band. Spotlight Music Editor Alex Rich caught Techn!color's performance at the Garlic Festival and pronounced the 21-song set tasty.

Read more on page 12

Due to Athletic Eligibility Requirements, a New Grading Policy Makes it the Quarter that Counts

After the OHSAA notices, Shaker switches to quarter-based grades after years of using semester marks to determine athletes' status

EVAN DUBAIL CAMPUS AND CITY EDITOR

Students may be surprised to see an improvement in their grade following the end of each quarter this year. SHHS has adopted the Ohio High School Athletic Association quarterly grading policy due to athletic eligibility issues.

In previous years, the grading policy was a semester-based system. For example, if a student earned a B in a class at the end of the first quarter, the grade would carry over to the second quarter.

Now, following the changes, a B first quarter will become a 0.00 at the beginning of second quarter until the first assignment is entered. The teacher will combine the quarter and exam grades into the semester grade. It is unclear whether the quarter grades will show on a transcript. The middle school used this policy, so it may be familiar to students who attended there.

Although some may believe these changes were made to benefit students, why were they necessary?

According to Principal Michael Griffith, during an attempt at a school-to-school student transfer, the OHSAA viewed the student's transcript to assure athletic eligibility and noticed that the grading was based on semesters. The OHSAA requested a change in Shaker's eligibility policy—one that had been incorrect by OHSAA standards for decades.

Although Shaker may have been allowing ineligible athletes to compete, the OHSAA will issue no punishment or sanctions.

"Shaker has no punishment because there was no intent to violate rules. Shaker has had this policy for longer than I've been here. There would only be a problem if we hadn't altered the policy," Griffith said.

The OHSAA gave two options for the change; either the policy would be based on quarterly grades like other schools, or sports eligibility would become completely semester based. Shaker took the first option.

If the district took the second option, it would mean that a student who was ineligible based on their June, second-semester grades would be ineligible until the next semester grades came out in January. This would make the student ineligible during both the fall and winter seasons. Under the quar-

terly policy, athletes will need to pass every quarter, rather than every semester, to remain eligible.

Many teachers were concerned about how semester grades would be determined based on grades from each quarter. Griffith believes that it should not be an issue and that teachers will have the final discretion in assigning grades based on achievement.

Elizabeth Plautz, an AP U.S. History and AP/IB Economics teacher, is concerned that grade calculation will be more difficult under the changed system.

"The new policy is a challenge because for APUSH, National History Day is worth 17 percent of a student's grade for the semester. There's now more math to deal with to calculate grades," Plautz said.

She also expressed concern that it will be harder for parents and students to see cumulative grades during the year.

"It will be more difficult for parents and students to understand the student's achievement for a given segment of the school year. They'd want a better picture of the grading period as a whole," she said. Overall, however, Plautz does not think the move to quarter grades will be significant.

"Change is a hard adjustment, but I think ultimately the change won't have that big of an effect," she said.

For students, Griffith expects that a fresh start each quarter may motivate and enable them to attain higher grades. Students who don't do well first quarter, may find their attitudes improve when they are given a chance at a higher grade second quarter and a better semester average.

"There should be no negative impact," Griffith said. "The policy will up the ante for athletes. Students may like the idea of a fresh start each quarter, but in the end, the grades students will receive will likely be the same they would have under the old policy."

Junior wrestler Nick Adamson believes that although some students may be affected by the change, the results will ultimately be the same.

"I think that athletes will have to do better to keep up with schoolwork to stay eligible each quarter, but I don't think the change will affect the grades most students earn in the long run," Adamson said. "If a student usually performs well, they will probably continue to, and the same for students who don't perform well."



Michael Griffith



Elizabeth Plautz



ANDREW BOYLE/THE SHAKERITE

Head Football Coach Jarvis Gibson talks with players during a game against the John F. Kennedy Eagles Sept. 8. This school year athletes will have to make more consistent academic efforts in order to remain eligible to play under the school's new grading policy.

...the immediately preceding grading period.
od. Semester and yearly grades have no effect
on OHSAA eligibility.
...and have received passing grades in a minimum
...for students taking post-secondary options must
...and have received passing grades in a minimum
...for the first grading period of the regular school

OHSAA ELIGIBILITY GUIDE

This section of the OHSAA Eligibility Guide states that students' semester grades do not count toward their OHSAA eligibility. The OHSAA noticed Shaker's semester grade policy discrepancy while reviewing the transcript of a transferring student-athlete and asked Shaker to make the switch to quarter based grades.

"Change is a hard adjustment, but I think ultimately the change won't have that big an effect."

ELIZABETH PLAUTZ

After 25 Years in Charge, Freeman Will Retire

SHANE MCKEON INVESTIGATIONS EDITOR

After 25 years as superintendent, Mark Freeman announced Sept. 4 that he will step down after this school year.

"It has been an honor to serve Shaker," Freeman stated in an email sent to faculty and staff. "I have been fortunate to work with supportive school boards and an active, positive and engaged community. I have had the privilege of serving with a highly talented and committed staff. Above all, I have had the incredible pleasure of watching our students grow and thrive."

"We credit Dr. Freeman with advancing Shaker to a global stage," stated Board of Education President Annette Tucker Sutherland in a press release. According to Sutherland, Freeman did this by "introducing the International Baccalaureate program for all students, pre-K through high school; launching our innovative Asian Studies and Mandarin language programs; and encouraging numerous exchange programs with sister schools all over the world."

"The press release got it right," said Mark Joseph, president of the community organization ONE Shaker. "He is masterful in his building of relationships and communicating what he sees as important with faculty and other administrators."

Joseph also discussed the athletic progress Freeman has overseen. "The turf field is a real turnaround of embarrassment that we had about the quality of our track and field," Joseph said. "To turn that around in such a short time is definitely an achievement."

Joseph said that Freeman had a "keen understanding" of Shaker's history. "Confronting the issue of white flight, Shaker was one of few districts that stepped up and charted a different path," Joseph said. "Our community did that; no one can take that away from us."

Regarding financial leadership, Sutherland added, "Dr. Freeman has also successfully guided the District through fiscal challenges including regional economic woes and reduced state funding."



PEGGY CALDWELL

Dr. Mark Freeman poses for a photo in his office earlier this year. According to the district's press release, Freeman has "no specific post-retirement plans," but he looks forward to spending more time with his family. He added "I do hope to stay active in the field of education in some way."

According to a press release from the district, the Board of Education will begin the search for a new superintendent, with "consideration of both internal and external candidates and a national search."

In his letter, Freeman stated that he will do "everything possible to ensure a smooth transition."

Freeman earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Kent State University. Freeman first became a Shaker teacher in 1967. In 1974, Freeman became the district's director of state and federal relations. The press release states, "In that capacity, he

was instrumental in creating and obtaining federal and foundation funds for the Shaker Schools Plan, one of the first voluntary desegregation efforts in the nation."

"Superintendents act less in words, and more in actions," said junior Pieter Block. "I've never heard him speak, but seeing the success of the district, it's obvious that he has done a great job."

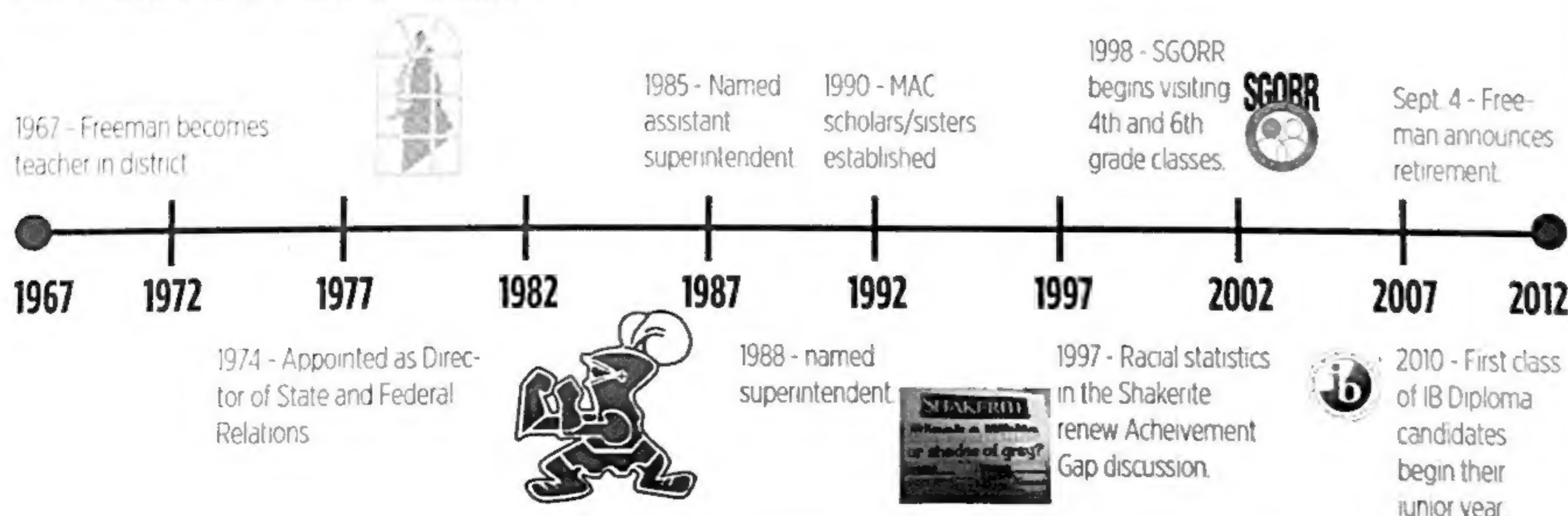
"It has been rewarding to see our school system grow and evolve," wrote Freeman. "I look forward to working with you, our students, and our community to make Shaker's 100th academic year our best yet."

Could This Mean More Snow Days?

On Feb. 14, 2007, 19 Action News reported that all schools in Cleveland were closed; well, all schools in Cleveland except Shaker Heights. Despite 25 years of achievements in the district, most students only know Dr. Freeman for one thing; his reluctance to call snow days. "I'm all for him retiring," said sophomore Paige Glaser. "I didn't like not knowing about school until 10 minutes before." However, some don't really mind the change. "I don't think a new superintendent is going to make that big of a difference," said junior Shaunak Roy. "Freshmen year we had snow days, and it was never that big of a

COMPILED BY MARCIA BROWN AND SHANE MCKEON

Dr. Freeman's Time in Shaker



For Class of 2015 and Beyond, In-House Gym is Not Required

CLARA MEDALIE CAMPUS AND CITY EDITOR

A new state mandate may make in-house physical education a thing of the past.

High school policy now states that students are no longer required to take two semesters of in-house physical education and can now earn PE credit through the state-mandated credit flexibility plan.



Stuart Gilbert

This policy change is the result of new state guidelines for physical education put into effect this school year. Now each student, either taking gym or doing independent study, will be evaluated by the school so that it can be determined

whether they receive credit.

The Ohio Department of Education states, "The physical education evaluation is designed for all students who participate in physical education. This includes students who participate in adapted physical education." Adapted physical education includes independent study. As long as students complete the required amount of physical education and the evaluation by the school is completed, the way they complete it does not matter.

Physical Education department Chairman

Stuart Gilbert said that he wants to ensure the policy puts kids' health first. "We want to make sure it has the educational backbone and rigor of the in-house physical education program," he said.

This year fewer students have elected in-house PE. Last year at this time, 339 students were signed up for Advanced PE and 291 students were signed up for 9PE. This year 330 people are signed up for Advanced PE and 286 for 9 PE.

Gilbert said some students would rather do in-house PE because it offers advantages. "You know that you're getting it done," he said, when you have physical education in your class schedule. He said that the credit-flexibility program is yet another activity in a student's busy life. Gilbert also said he believes the traditional PE program is more convenient because parents do not have to absorb any costs of programs done outside of school.

Freshman Allison Gao opted to do independent study instead of in-house gym. She said that if she had been required to take gym, she wouldn't have been able to take all of the classes she wanted to.

Gao plays tennis on the girl's tennis team and thinks that she gets more exercise than she would in gym class. By playing tennis, she said, "You already get your exercise."



ANDREW BOYLE/THE SHAKERITE

PE students gather on the dance room floor for class. Physical Education department Chairman Stuart Gilbert is a strong proponent of in-house gym. "All schools should have four years of in-house," he said.

Shaker Voters Approve 1% Tax Hike

Thanks to Shaker voters, the city's garbage collectors will still drive up its residents' drive-ways.

Ten police officers, 10 firefighters, 15 public works employees and five community life workers were also spared when 62 percent of voters approved a tax increase during a special election Aug. 7.

The tax was proposed in order to fill a multi-million dollar hole in the budget left by state government cuts and was necessary in order to fund city services such as garbage pickup from behind residences rather than from the curb.

The tax goes into effect next month and will raise the income tax from 1.25 percent to 2.25 percent. This will boost Shaker's annual tax revenue from \$20 million to \$26 million. It is the city's first tax increase since 1981.

High school math teacher and Shaker resident Christine McCandless referred to the tax as "a necessary evil." She does not want any more increased taxes but she thinks that City Council worked hard to cut funds where they could.

After the tax passed, Mayor Earl Leiken said in a written statement, "Today's vote makes me very proud to be a resident of Shaker Heights."

COMPILED BY CLARA MEDALIE

New Parking Limitations for Students on Oval

CLARA MEDALIE CAMPUS AND CITY EDITOR

When school began, faculty and staff felt the loss of 35 parking spaces in the high school lots, and now, students are feeling it, too.

The turf field and track renovation prompted the Shaker Heights fire marshal to eliminate 35 unofficial parking spaces in the north and south lots that employees had relied on for years.

According to Principal Michael Griffith, the high school has approximately 225 staff members but only 170 parking spots in school parking lots.

The solution, which Griffith announced via faculty email Sept. 6, sets aside 35 spots on the oval from the North Gym entrance to Woodbury Road. Shaker Heights police posted signs there stating parking is allowed by permit only from 6 a.m. until 4 p.m. on school days.

The night the decision was made, students received an automated phone call explaining the new policy.

Some students, such as junior Beth Cheverine, met the change with opposition. "As

someone who drives to school every day it's an inconvenience to have to get to school by 7:30 each day to get a good spot," Cheverine said.

Griffith said that staff used to park on the sidewalk and in fire lane areas around the building. Of solving the shortage, Griffith said "We looked at many different options." He said he didn't want to add a parking lot or take away any green space, and wanted to set aside only as many spots on the oval as were lost in the lots.

Cheverine predicts that the loss of 35 spaces for students on the oval will become a bigger problem over time. "It's going to get progressively worse as more students start to get their licenses this year," she said.

The first day of the new policy, teachers seemed to not have gotten the memo. From the North Gym entrance to Woodbury Road there were hardly any teachers parked. Students, on the other hand, had to park further down Ashford Road.

Enforcement of the policy falls to the police, not the school.

Griffith said, "We'll see what happens."



ANDREW BOYLE/THE SHAKERITE

A new sign on the north side of the oval states that parking without a staff permit is prohibited.



JACK REESE/THE SHAKERITE

Student Effort, Not Policies, Will Make the Difference

Students who slack off during the first quarter always have the second quarter to get the grade they so desire for the semester, right? Wrong.

Due to a change in grading policy, students' quarterly scores will be averaged with their final exam scores at the semester mark. That means if you have a C at the end of the quarter, you're stuck with it. Even if you pull an A second quarter, it will be averaged with your first quarter C. In previous years, the semester grade was averaged with the final instead of two separate quarter grades and the final. Additionally, you cannot turn in late work past the quarter mark in order to bring up your grade. Tough luck.

The new grading policy is driven by athletic eligibility. Athletes must have a passing grade each quarter to continue to be eligible for their sport. When

Shaker was basing athletic eligibility on semester grades, the school was not complying with OHSAA eligibility rules.

The quarterly grading policy is only beneficial to athletes trying to become eligible to play their sports.

The grading policy also poses a problem for students on ProgressBook. Students can view their grades from previous quarters, but the grade they see on ProgressBook will not reflect what their grades will be once they are averaged for the semester. If a student goes on ProgressBook and sees an A as a second quarter grade, that A is only based on the quarter's grades and not the average of the previous quarter and the current grade for the quarter.

Any bad grade can affect an athlete's eligibility, but having a quarterly grade gives them more opportunities to get the grades they need to play. Formerly, athletic eligibility was determined by the previous semester's grades, and quarterly grades were only

non-official benchmarks. This new policy strongly urges students to do their very best every quarter, rather than relying on the second quarter of each semester to redeem themselves. Principal Michael Griffith said, "If the balance of the two quarters were equal, then there is no difference in the outcome." This means that if a student earns similar grades for each quarter, for instance a 92 percent and a 90 percent, then averaging the quarters will have the same outcome as a cumulative semester grade.

The new grading policy may motivate athletes to bring up their grades when their eligibility depends on it, but an athlete who plays only a spring sport does not need to maintain his or her grade for the remainder of the fourth quarter. The new policy may motivate students to focus more on current assignments, but in the long run, it's up to the student, not the grading policy, to make sure he or she earns an optimal grade.

**Rite
Idea**

Regional Conflict Raises Concern for Trip

The planned band trip to Istanbul, Turkey, over spring break has raised concerns about the safety of students.

Band Director Tom Deep said that Turkey was chosen as this year's destination because of the valuable educational experience its rich history will provide.

Because Turkey is split between Asia and Europe, it has an interesting mix of cultures and people. Turkey has also been occupied by many different countries and empires over history, and as a result Deep said he expects the trip will give students a new perspective of other cultures that they might not otherwise get to experience.

Students will visit historic churches, Ottoman ruins and famous mosques.

According Deep, four unique groups helped to decide the location for this year's trip. Groups com-

prised students, band directors, parents and administrators, and Deep said each group chose Turkey. On its last trip three years ago, the band travelled throughout Europe.



Sarah Shaw



Samantha Weesner

One concern about traveling to Turkey is the country's proximity to the Middle East. Though Turkey is not a part of the Middle East, there are uprisings in countries nearby and according to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office website, there are terrorism threats in Southeast Turkey.

Additionally, the website of the Council on U.S. Relations states that the United States' relationship with Turkey has been strained since Turkey denied the United States use of territory during the Iraq War in 2006. The Turkish government felt that the United States did not take Turkish security into account during the Iraq War, and as a result, U.S. citizens faced greater risk in Turkey.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Consular Affairs website, some terrorist attacks in Turkey over the past few years have been deliberately directed at U.S. citizens.

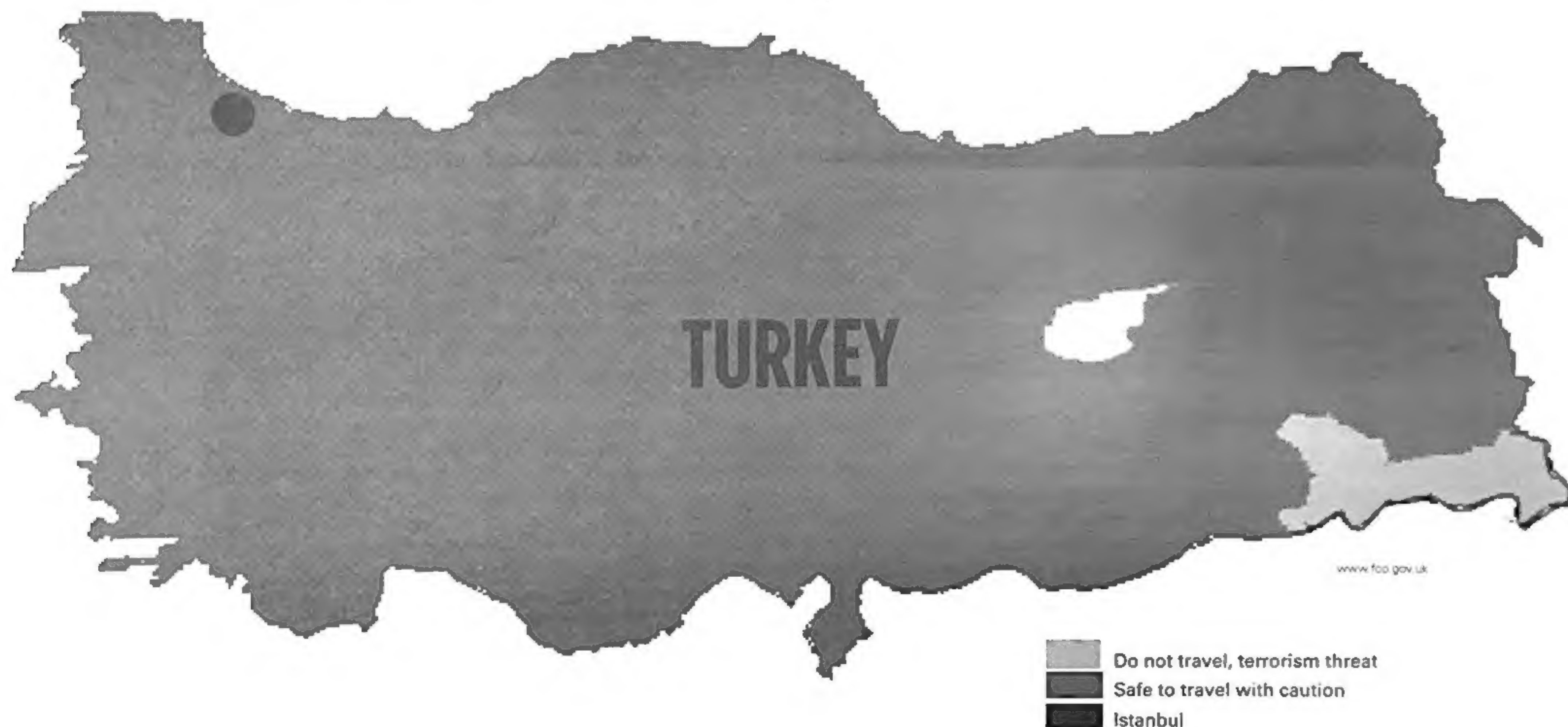
"We all know Turkey has problems going on," said freshman Max Bond, who said his parents are hesitant to let him go on the trip.

Although Bond's parents have agreed to let him go, he says his safety is his and his parents' main concern.

At this time, the number of people going on the trip is higher than the past average, according to Deep. However Deep said that as it comes time to make payments, numbers often go down.

Safety is often a main concern when visiting the Middle East and surrounding countries.

Freshman Peter Zagara said it was his choice not to go, but his parents wouldn't have let him anyway. Zagara said, "You don't send two planes of school children into a war zone."



Do not travel, terrorism threat
Safe to travel with caution
Istanbul

A Note From Student Council

Hey, Shaker Raiders! My name is Juliet Bellin Warren and I am the student body president for the 2012-2013 school year.



Juliet Bellin Warren

Over the next few weeks, Student Council will be sharing our duties with the class of 2016. Thanks to everyone who participated in elections on Sept. 13, and we hope this new group of eager, driven, spirited and enthusiastic freshmen will help make our school great. Student

Council will also be busy planning this year's homecoming, which will occur Sept. 29, and the first spirit week! Keep your eyes open for posters telling you what to wear so we can all show off our Shaker spirit. Along with homecoming comes the homecoming parade, which will give Shaker's clubs and organizations the opportunity to demonstrate their pride.

This year we hope to raise a lot of money for our school through many different forms of fundraising: bake sales, car washes, rake-a-thons, shovel-a-thons and more! We want to help fund our school's activities and donate

to important charities.

We plan on increasing school spirit, making sure the school is aware of and participating in all school events, making new and improved events, expanding each club/organization and making sure that every student at Shaker Heights High School cares about his or her school.

Raider Nation is a home to us; Student Council cares about it, and we hope every other student cares about it, too.

Also, keep in mind that Student Council is open to any suggestions, so please feel free, safe and comfortable to share your ideas!

Common Application Should Be Common

As I began applying to college, I looked through the list of schools that use the Common Application. I was unpleasantly surprised to find out that only one of the four schools I was applying to does. Several of my older friends and family members who have already gone through the unbelievably stressful process of applying to college have told me how much I would love the Common Application and how much time it was going to save me. In my case, I found the Common App wasn't beneficial at all.



Samantha Weisner

The college application process is one of the most stressful things I've ever done. For each of my four applications, I have a separate username, password and university ID number to remember. I even installed an app on my iPhone just to keep track of all of that information. The Common App would eliminate all that confusion by putting all applications on one website, with one username and password.

My friends told me that the Common Application would save me time because it allows students to fill

out one application with all of the information every university requests. Even though it is supposed to be convenient, the Common App is no time saver in my mind. Because only one of my prospective schools accepts it, the Common App was just another form I tediously completed with the same basic information I had previously filled out for my other three applications.

I see no reason for universities not to use the Common App. More colleges join every year, and I believe eventually all schools will use the Common App, but why not speed the process up and make the Common App mandatory?

There are many advantages to the Common App. Eric Fruda, dean of admissions at the University of Pennsylvania, is a strong proponent. "The benefit for students is that they fill out responses to questions that all of these institutions have in common but used to ask independently," Fruda stated in an interview with U.S. News. "Obviously, this is more efficient." If the application is universal for all schools, you might wonder how each school personalizes the application. The Common App allows for individualization as universities can have the students fill out

supplements specific to each school.

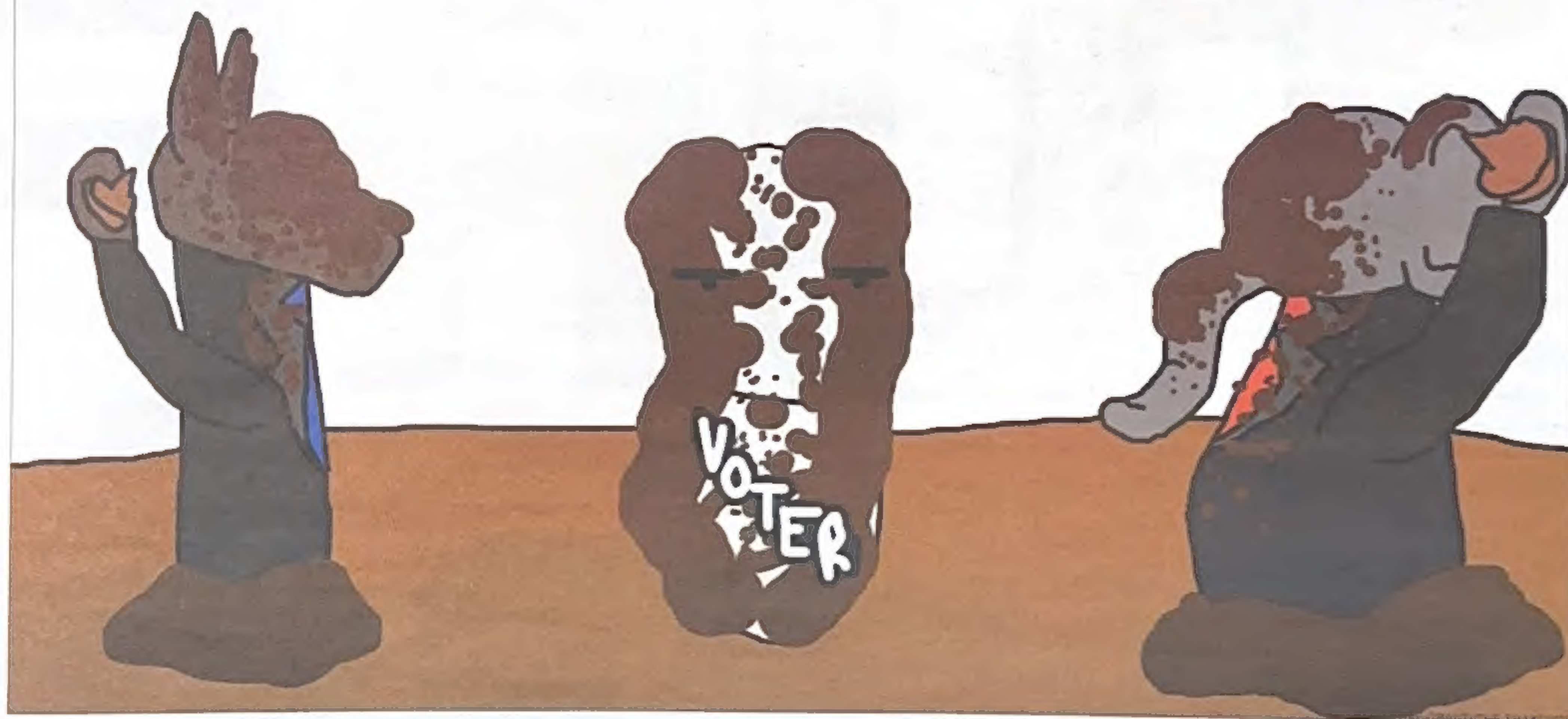
One of the effects, which can be viewed positively or negatively, is that a university's switch to the Common Application can increase the number of people who apply. After switching to the Common App, the University of Michigan received a record number of applications. Ted Spencer, the University of Michigan admissions director, claims that the increase is due to the switch.

Fruda points out that the only disadvantage that stems from the Common App is easily controlled by the students themselves. Because it is so easy to add schools to apply to, some students get application crazy and add schools to their list that aren't right for them. Student should take that responsibility seriously. Applying everywhere only increases stress for everyone.

Why not make the lives of seniors everywhere easier by using one universal application for the information all colleges require, and personalized supplements for each individual college? The university would still get to ask any questions it wants, but would save students from filling out the same information over and over.

Op
Art

Collateral Damage of Political Mudslinging



Have a gripe about a college app?
Want to vent about a political commercial?

Sound off at
shakerite.com



Cover Story

FINALLY PLAYING ON OUR OWN

The new score board displays the score during the first half of the women's varsity soccer game against Chardon. The Raiders won their first game on the turf 5-2. The upper screen displays information on upcoming events and game-related animations to the crowd. Each time a player scores a goal, the screen displays her name and grade. The old scoreboard only showed time and score.



TURF

ALLIE HARRIS, KATHLEEN KALAFATIS AND ERICA SEMAN COVER STORY EDITORS

TRACKING THE TRANSITION TO TURF

KYRA HALL, MANAGING EDITOR

SEPTEMBER 2010

NOVEMBER 2010

SEPTEMBER 2011

OCTOBER 2011

NOVEMBER 2011

MARCH 2012

APRIL 2012



Rumors that NFL cornerback Nate Clements ('97) had offered to fund a turf football field surfaced and persisted. Athletic Director Don Readance confirmed to former Raider Zone Editor Ian Round that Clements had never offered to fund the field.



In a phone interview with former Raider Zone Editor Kyra Hall, Clements said that helping Shaker build a new turf field was something he would like to contribute to in the future. However, he denied having any immediate plans to do so.



Readance said he wanted the high school football field and track to be replaced. He estimated the cost would be at most \$1.5 million. At that time, there was no time table for construction and the district was looking for donors.



Superintendent Mark Freeman stated, "At this time, the school district does not have the resources for a project of this scale. Our priority is maintaining academic programs."



Shaker parents Lee Weingart and Doug Neary proposed a plan for two new turf fields and a new track at a City Council meeting Oct. 24. Mayor Earl Leiken wasn't convinced the project was a good idea.



At a Board of Education meeting March 13, 2012, the board was expected to authorize the installation of an artificial turf field and a new track. The board decided to postpone any action until spring 2013.



COMPILED BY KYRA HALL

Barry Zucker, University Heights resident and executive director of Beyond Pesticides Ohio, was pleased by the board's decision to delay the installation of synthetic turf. He listed several health risks and disadvantages of turf fields.



Sophomore defender Rachel Elson goes in for the ball against a Chardon player Sept. 1 at Russell H. Rupp Stadium. The Raiders defeated Chardon 5-2 to win their home turf debut. "I count myself lucky that I get to play on it. It's a pretty perfect field, and honestly, anything is better than the mess we played on at Onaway," Elson said. Junior runningback Ramses Owens approaches the 30 yard line during the game against Cleveland Central Catholic. Shaker won 49-20. Band members and Raiderettes perform during half-time at the Sept. 8 football game against CCC. Rubber pieces that inhabit the turf fly into the air after a Shaker field hockey player hits the ball during the Aug. 31 game against Bexley High School. The final score was 1-1. Junior left wing Lizzie Weingart said the rubber pieces "don't really bother me that much, they do get in my shoes but nothing besides that." Elson added, "My only complaint is that the black bits of rubber get everywhere - pants, shirt, mouth, shoes. But it's a small price to pay for such a great field."

Wireless Makes Its Way to School

Students eager to use the signal but wary of losing their gadgets

BRIDGET COOK SPOTLIGHT EDITOR

Picture this: you're sitting in class having a discussion when something comes up that needs to be looked up. The teacher announces: "Everyone, pull out your phones!"

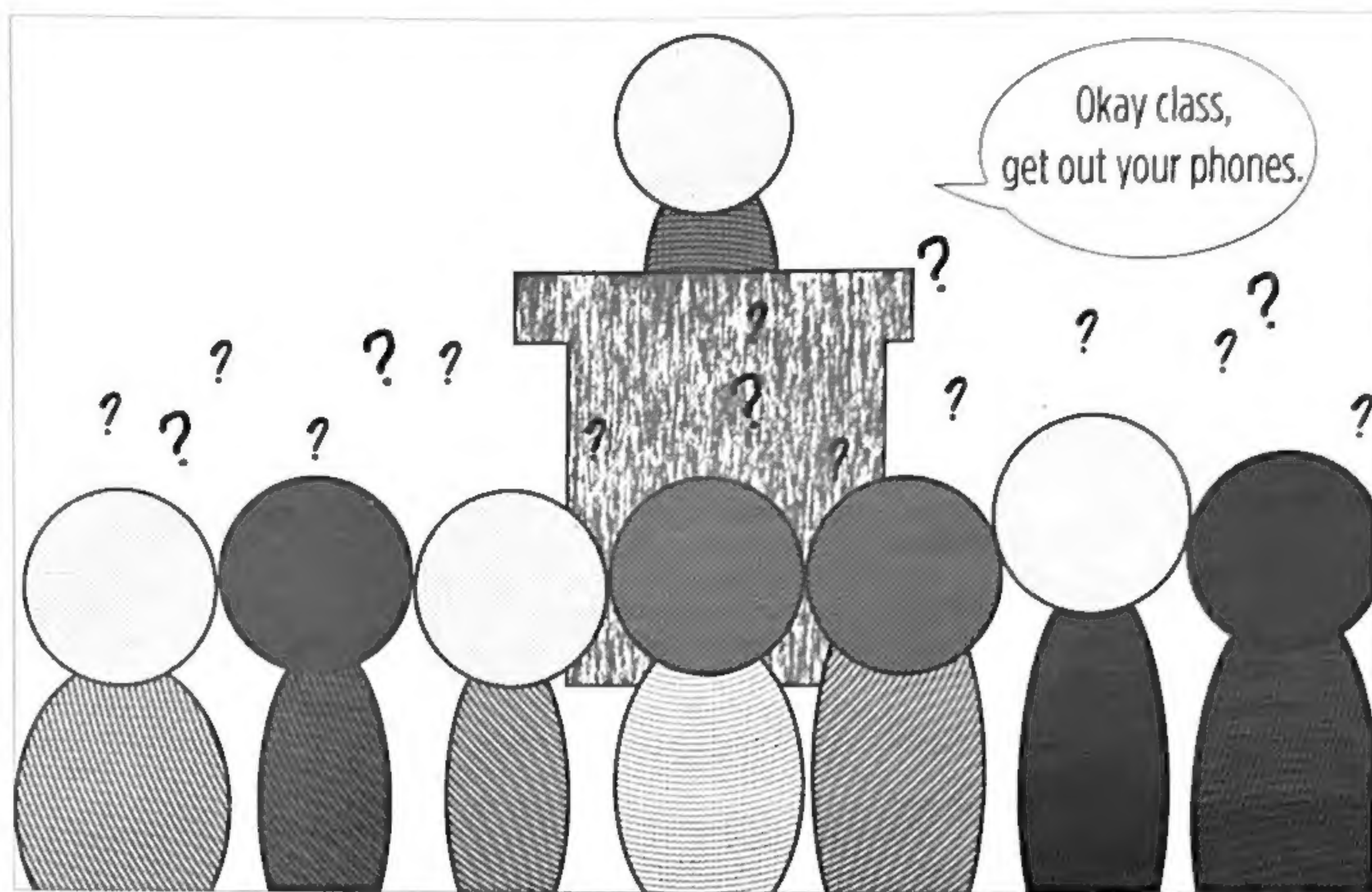
Such a scene is hard to imagine in any school, let alone Shaker. But with the introduction of a new wireless network, it just may become a reality in your classroom.

Before this year, students would likely only be asked to put away their cell phones, not take them out. However, with the introduction of an easily accessible wireless network to the high school, phones, laptops, iPads and other devices are more frequently being integrated into classrooms. Students can use educational apps, type notes, look up definitions and record teachers' lectures if they desire.

Shaker's decision to install a wireless network reflects the new direction education is taking concerning improved technology. It's quite possible that in the next several years, textbooks will be on tablets, making heavy, hardback copies obsolete. One can only imagine the type of technology that our own children will use in school as innovations become more and more fantastic.

While having the entire Internet available to students as a learning tool can be incredibly helpful, it's only a matter of time before students find ways to misuse the technology. Who could resist checking Twitter when your teacher isn't going to penalize you for having a phone out? The district's network blocks popular apps such as Facebook and Instagram, but it won't take long for students to find ways around the restrictions. Students with 3G internet access already have the ability to use their smartphones without restriction.

Despite these possibilities, economics teacher Elizabeth Plautz still endorses the idea of using personal technology in her classroom. "I would be OK with that as long as [the students] were on-task," Plautz said. "However, that's my opinion. Other teachers may be different. The important thing is that we have autonomy," Plautz said that if she were to catch a student doing something other than class work on a phone or computer, she would "operate on a one-strike policy."



SASHA RAE GRANT / THE SHAKERITE

The introduction of a wireless network at the high school has led to the use of phones, iPads and personal computers in the classroom. Depending on the teacher's policy, students may be allowed to take notes, use educational apps or record lectures in class.

The other problem that may result from increased use of technology is the danger of having so many expensive gadgets at school on a regular basis. Having these devices out so often could lead to the theft of someone's laptop, smartphone or iPad.

Junior Josh Payne doesn't plan to bring expensive devices to school. He said, "It's not that I distrust most of the kids at Shaker, it's just the select few I think

might spoil it for the rest. I would never bring a device any bigger than a cell phone."

"I have heard of many people having stuff stolen from their backpacks in locker rooms and stuff like that. I have learned that if there's anything of value or importance to keep it on me," Payne said.

Sophomore Ellen Walsh sees the problem with thefts, but trusts herself to hold onto her belongings. "I think it could be unsafe for people to bring them to school because you don't know what some people are like," Walsh said. "I would bring my laptop to school because I'd keep it with me all day or put it in my locker."

Assistant Principal Eric Hutchinson said he has high expectations for Shaker students concerning one another's belongings. He said, "As someone who believes in young people, I am hoping that our student body rises to the challenge by demonstrating respect for one another's personal property."

"It's not that I distrust most of the kids at Shaker. It's just the select few I think might spoil it for the rest. I would never bring a device any bigger than a cell phone."

JOSH PAYNE, JUNIOR

What Really Goes On Every Tuesday?

BRIDGET COOK SPOTLIGHT EDITOR

Every Tuesday morning this year, students will get to press snooze on their alarm clocks and sleep in a little later.

Monthly early dismissals have given way to weekly late arrivals. Class now starts at 8:47 on Tuesday mornings to give faculty more time to meet by department and plan longterm changes in curriculum and instruction.

Shaker is not the first school in the area to introduce late starts; Gilmour Academy has a weekly late arrival and Beaumont has one monthly. Here's what Shaker students and teachers had to say about the late start schedule:

What Kids Think Happens

"I feel like they're talking about the same things they discussed on Monday afternoon meetings last year. I have no issue, though I liked early dismissal better."

DiDi Shiloh, senior

"They should be program planning."

Mia Wang, junior

"I think they just talk about ways they could improve the school. I liked the early dismissal more. The Tuesday dismissal is more frequent, which makes conferences happen less often and it messes up the sports a little bit."

Liam Tipton-Fletcher, sophomore

What Actually Happens

"We have some major things that need to be done for the district improvement plan. Our science department, for example, is working on a curriculum map, so no matter what teacher or level you have, there is some uniformity."

Jonathan Rice, science teacher

"We want to make sure that the same material is being taught. For example, in German, we are focusing on the mid-term. Across the board, we're all just trying to get more collaboration time."

Johanna Dus-Bacic, German teacher

Grass is Always Greener, Unless It's Turf

Judging the impact of new field and track on fans, parking and practice schedules

ANNA O'CONNELL SPOTLIGHT EDITOR

Shaker's track and field construction concluded just in time for the kick-off of another fall season.

The \$1.61 million project, the product of many meetings and petitioning by dedicated parents, coaches and community members, is finally finished.

Rumors about the facilities have been circulating among the community.

Readance confirmed that the track is only six lanes and said Shaker decided not to enlarge it because ex-



Don Readance

pansion would require shrinking the baseball fields. "All coaches of sports affected by these improvements were consulted in advance of final decisions about the new field and track and all signed off on the project," Readance said.

Due to the new facilities and the city's enforcement of laws prohibiting parking in fire lanes, the high school lost 35 parking

spaces in the north and south lots.

On Sept. 5, Business Administrator Robert Kreiner said, "We are working with the police department and other city officials on the parking situation to identify some solutions and hope to have changes in place very soon."

On Sept. 6, the solution was announced: 35 spots on the oval from the North Gym entrance to Woodbury Road were designated for faculty and staff parking by permit from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. on school days.

In an email interview, Director of Communications Peggy Caldwell said, "Shaker Heights Police Department has worked with the district to designate part of the oval as staff parking by permit only. This will restore the number of staff parking spaces lost to construction and stricter enforcement of fire lanes."

The new field has raised expectations of increased game attendance. However, Readance said it's too early to determine the effect. "It's hard to tell whether attendance will be greater at this point because this is all new territory for us," he said. "I do know it will be a much more spectator-friendly environment and think that will help to increase attendance."

Attendance may be affected by the new ticket requirement. All events now require ticket purchase. "We



ANDREW BOYLE/THE SHAKERITE

Each sports team was represented by a team member at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the turf field before the football home opener Sept. 1 and Russell H. Rupp Stadium. Readance said, "We will get as many events on the field as possible, be they JV, ninth or varsity."

are now just doing what all other schools across the country do . . . and have a normal ticket-selling operation," Readance said.

To help bring spectators to sporting events, the school decided to sell year round athletic passes for students and adults. Athletic passes can be used by any adults and students to gain access into a certain number of games based on the pass they choose to purchase, and they can be used for any sporting event. They can be purchased in the athletic office or at any athletic event; student athletic passes are \$20 for 10 games and \$15 for five games. Adult athletic passes are \$40 for 10 games and \$25 for five games. Used to their full potential, passes will save money for each fan compared to the standard single-ticket game price throughout the year.

As far as use of the turf goes, the school and athletic department have yet to devise a schedule, partly because the school is waiting to stripe the track. Prac-



ANDREW BOYLE/THE SHAKERITE

Senior Shelby Bauer drives the ball down the new turf field Sept. 10 at Russell H. Rupp Stadium, Shaker field hockey beat Stow 5-1.

tice times will be divided among sports equally, and coaches can decide how to use that time.

The renovation did not include installation of lighting for night games or late practices, so the school and coaches will have to pay close attention and use the time allotted to their full advantage. Readance said, "We will get as many events on the field as possible, be they

JV, ninth or varsity."

The new track and field also command a stricter policy on items such as sports drinks, gum and sunflower seeds. These items and any others like them will not be allowed on the field and track because small objects will damage the field drainage system, clogging the structure and ruining many dollars worth of piping. Water will be the only beverage permitted on the field and track.

The size and presence of the new scoreboard is one of the most obvious changes to the track and field facilities. The width remained the same as before, but the new scoreboard is taller to accommodate the graphics display. Kreiner said, "We have received many compliments about the new scoreboard and to my knowledge no complaints, but we do plan to add trees to provide partial screening."

"It's hard to tell whether attendance will be greater . . . this is all new territory for us."

DON READANCE



ANDREW BOYLE/THE SHAKERITE

The Shaker Heights Marching Band takes the field Sept. 1 for its inaugural home turf performance. Their show included "Rolling in the Deep," "We Built This City," "Runaway Baby," "Moves Like Jagger," "Edge of Glory" and "Ain't No Mountain."

Techn!color Shines Bright



This Shaker band is building momentum through their bright, diverse covers and the unique style they bring to each song.

Members of Techn!color pose in a photo shoot last month at Horseshoe Lake. At right: Mike Miller, Shane McKeon, Arman Gerami and Lillian Sindelar. The band, formerly called "Snozberries," was formed nine months ago and will release its first demo for the Tri-C Rock Off within the next few months.

ALEX RICH SPOTLIGHT MUSIC EDITOR

For a band whose name evokes all the rainbow's brightest colors, Techn!color is no stranger to bright lights. Comprising juniors Lillian Sindelar (vocals), Arman Gerami (bass), Shane McKeon (guitar) and Mike Miller (drums) and formed a mere nine months ago, the group has already played a number of shows from local coffee shop performances to larger rock-offs.

The group first chose the name the Snozberries for Rock the Falls but quickly abandoned it because, "it was a half in, half out name; it sounded tacky and childish," said McKeon. "I mean, we were tacky and childish."

"But we wanted something different and new," said Miller.

The name itself actually symbolizes the band. "We don't do a certain kind of music, and we wanted a name that pulled it all together," Sindelar said.

"We're in-between old and new, we play old and new songs, and we thought Techn!color captures that," added McKeon.

The band members talk comfortably with each other, playing off one another's ideas, adding to one another's remarks. The feeling among them suggests an established band, a group that has performed and interviewed for years. It is surprising to find that not only is the band merely nine months old, but the members were not previously friends.

"[The band] was Shane's idea," Miller said. "He came to me because he needed a drummer, and then he asked me if I knew anyone that could sing."

After a pause McKeon added, looking at Gerami, "And we needed an attractive bass player; that's the centerpiece of every good band."

Sindelar confirmed, "At first it was a little awkward since we didn't really know each other, like I had never talked to [McKeon or Gerami] before, but we like each other, and we work well together."

The music they play blends all four members' interests well; so far they have no original music, but each cover they do represents a different member's talents and highlights the band's ability to mix styles. "Our name makes me think of all the colors of the rainbow," said McKeon. "Not the unicorns and stuff, but the different colors, and that's representative of all our different kinds of music. We're re-

"We wouldn't be playing music still if we didn't like each other; we would have ripped each other apart."

SHANE MCKEON



ally all over the board."

This diversity was apparent in their show at the Garlic Festival on Saturday, Sept. 8. Playing a sizeable 21-song set, the covers ranged from more modern songs such as "Somebody I Used to Know" by Gotye, to older but still well-known classics such as "Ain't No Sunshine" by Bill Withers.

What really showed their talent was how they engaged the audience. Plenty of high school bands, and established bands for that matter, seem only concerned with the music and rarely interact with the audience. Techn!color was pleasantly surprising because they consistently talked to and thanked the audience for sticking with them, adding in bits about some covers and encouraging audience members to sing along.

Their stage presence was even more surprising after they admitted their least favorite part of performing was figuring out what to do on stage. "Our first show," Gerami said, "I didn't know what to do. I was just standing there."

Despite the discomfort they may have felt, the group managed to connect with everyone in the crowd and even moved around as they played, although McKeon did most of the dancing.

One of the most touching moments happened while performing "Hallelujah" by Leonard Cohen, in which Miller played the harmonica and Gerami played the accordion. Sindelar's voice stood out as McKeon, Miller and Gerami sat close together and played. Apart from the applause that followed each instrumental solo, the audience listened intently throughout the song. The band ended strongly with "Hometown Glory" by Adele, with both McKeon and Miller on drums, Gerami on piano, and Sindelar's strong voice breaking through all the sound. The band showed their true power in this moment. Everything fell into place and they worked together to highlight each person's strengths, individually and as a group.

If you're worried that you might not be able to catch one of their shows, there may be hope on the horizon. "For the Tri-C Rock Off, we have to record a demo, so we'll put it together in the next few months, and then we might put the demo out for free," McKeon said.

And there's no need to worry about the band's future. Said Miller, "This is just the beginning really."

Rozier's Cardinal Career on Hold for Now

Louisville recruit Terry Rozier, '12, will spend a year at Virginia's Hargrave Academy to gain eligibility for NCAA debut

ALEX SMITH RAIDERZONE EDITOR

Shaker alumnus and University of Louisville basketball recruit, Terry Rozier, decided to put his Louisville scholarship on hold to attend a year of prep school at Hargrave Academy in Chatam, Virginia. "Louisville and I thought this what would be best for me," said Rozier describing his decision.

Hargrave is a private boarding school for high school students and post-graduates. Rozier now attends Hargrave to improve his high school academic record and to further train to play at Louisville. He will play at Hargrave for the year, and will attend and play at Louisville next year.

When asked if his decision had any drawbacks, Rozier said, "No drawbacks... When I get to Louisville next year there won't be a point guard, so I'll get playing time right away."

Rozier is attending Hargrave to redeem his scores from high school, to become eligible to compete in college. Hargrave's educational belief is that students who are physically, morally and mentally fit are in a better position to



Terry Rozier

make sound decisions, establish personal goals and become productive citizens.

Not only will Rozier acquire the grades for the game, he will play at Hargrave as a combo guard alongside many Division I recruits. Hargrave basketball is highly noted for its great talent and hard work during the offseason.

Rozier is not the first to take the prep school route; in fact, many players take a year off before college in hopes of earning a bigger or better scholarship, or just to gain experience against other elite competition.

Rozier is one of fourteen recruits on the Hargrave team; four of them are committed to other Division I schools.

Hargrave's starting small forward is committed to Virginia Tech, their shooting guard is another Louisville commit, and they have one bench player committed to Wake Forest. The other 10 recruits remain undecided.

This year, Hargrave will play 45 games against other prep schools, junior varsity college teams and junior college teams.

Many great NBA players such as Kevin Durant and Carmelo Anthony have opted to attend prep school before continuing their promising careers. Likewise, many college recruits take a year off and attend prep school to redeem their grades and train themselves for their road ahead.

For post-graduate athletes, prep school serves as a gateway between high school and college.

"You're more independent at prep school," said prep school product Chris Evans in an interview with the Connecticut Post. "It's definitely tougher; no one is holding your hand. But also it's not college." Evans now plays as a guard for Sacred Heart.

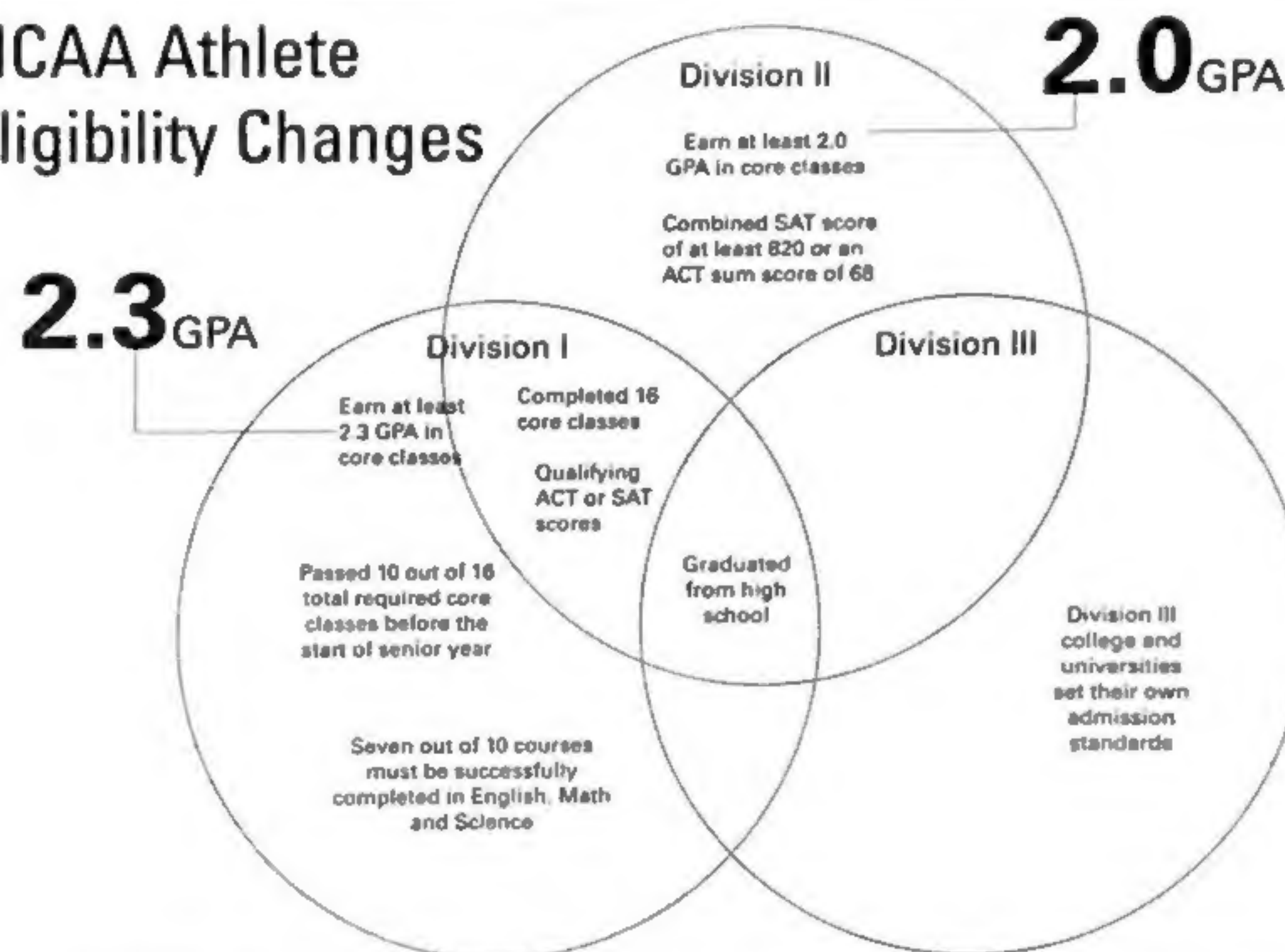
Many prep schools are known for their athletic prominence as well as their academics and discipline. Durant and Anthony are few of many great prep school products, hopefully the future will prove to be promising for Rozier.



SHANE MCKEON/THE SHAKERITE

Shaker alumnus Terry Rozier, wearing jersey No. 3, awaits a pass from junior Rose! Hurley during a game versus Euclid last season. Rozier and Hurley were two of four Raiders to receive Division I offers last year

NCAA Athlete Eligibility Changes



NCAA: No Grades, No Game?

ALEX SMITH RAIDERZONE EDITOR

College athletic graduation rates have been an increasing problem in the NCAA, and the organization has increased academic entrance standards for future athletes. According to data ESPN gathered since 2006, 76 percent of college athletes graduate in six years. However, these numbers among football and basketball players are dramatically lower. The graduation rate for college football has reached an all-time high of 69 percent; basketball sits a few numbers lower at 67 percent.

These low rates, especially from athletic powerhouse schools, can mostly result from players going pro before they graduate. There was not one college graduate selected in the top 10 picks of the 2012 NBA

draft. Nevertheless, in 2011, the NCAA changed its academic standards for student-athletes. According to NCAA.org, "The new philosophy will require student-athletes enrolling in August 2015 and later to meet a higher academic standard to compete in the first year." The NCAA divides athlete eligibility into two categories. To be eligible in the first category – aid and practice – an incoming freshman must have earned a 2.0 GPA in order to receive scholarship money and to practice with his/her team. However, this does not mean they're eligible to compete in games until they earn enough college credit to qualify for the next season. The second category is competition; incoming freshman must have earned a 2.5 GPA in high school in order to compete during their freshman season.

Academics Need to Play a Role in Athletes' Lives, Too

Sobering employment, earning statistics reveal the cost of overlooking classes in favor of sports

Derrick Rose, Fab Melo, LaQuinton Ross, Isaiah Wiley, Michael Ford. You've probably heard of some of these collegiate and professional athletes. All of them were at one point academically ineligible to play.



Ari Ross

Add Terry Rozier to the list. Rozier, a former Shaker Heights basketball player and Louisville recruit, is going to prep school this year instead of the University of Louisville to become "better prepared" for college.

According to the NCAA, 80 percent of student-athletes graduate from college, but this doesn't show the whole picture. The academic performance of many women's teams and minor sports teams, which typically have athletes who are more dedicated to academics, inflate that statistic. Contrastingly, men's basketball and football players at many competitive universities such as Indiana, Michigan, Southern California and Oklahoma, have graduation success rates of 50 percent or even lower. That means that fewer than half of the football and basketball players graduate. This is unacceptable.

Not every student-athlete will grow up to be the next Michael Jordan, Derek Jeter or Peyton Manning. That big paycheck from a job in professional sports might never come, and without education, the once student-athlete might be stuck in a rut for life.

There is a reason they're called student-athletes. It is because they are students first, and athletes second. Most student-athletes will graduate and go into careers off the field or court. It is important that student-athletes realize this and get the education they need.

Famous collegiate and high school athletes who don't make it to the pros have few job opportunities that don't pay minimum wage if they don't get an education.

According to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, workers with only high school diplomas made on average \$33,176 in 2011 while those with bachelor's degrees made \$54,756. And, according to the BLS, the unemployment rate for high school graduates is 9.4 percent. For college graduates, it is 4.9 percent.

For nearly every high-school athlete, those numbers are more important than scoring averages. Let's hope Rozier takes advantage of his prep-school stop and gains eligibility for a fine career at Louisville. Let's also hope that he acts on what every Shaker student knows: your education is just as important as your athletic career. You have limited amount of playing time, but you will need to work for life.

NCAA College Graduation Rates

68% 2004 Men's Basketball Graduation Rate

2004 Men's Football Graduation Rate **69%**

67% OSU Men's Football Graduation Rate

OSU Men's Basketball Graduation Rate **57%**

67% BCS School Average Graduation Rate

Female Student-Athlete Graduation Rate **88%**

73% Male Student-Athlete Graduation Rate



ANDREW BOYLE/THE SHAKERITE

During the Sept. 1 game against John F. Kennedy, junior running back Greg Claytor eludes defenders after receiving a handoff. Shaker defeated JFK 35-0. Athletic Director Don Readance said he was most impressed with the shutout, and that it should be an exciting year for the Shaker football team.

Shaker Football Back to Winning Ways

ARI ROSS RAIDERZONE EDITOR

Maybe it's the coach. Maybe it's the new conference. Maybe it's the turf. Whatever it is, Shaker football is back.

With two wins and 105 points in their first three games, the Raiders have already exceeded last year's results, when Shaker was 2-8 and scored 179 points all season. At their current pace, the Shaker offense would score 350 points this season.

Last year the team had supposedly improved in comparison to the 2010-2011 team, but it did not show in their record. The team had to forfeit a game against Warrensville Heights due to field conditions.

This year Solon beat Shaker 24-21 on Aug. 24 and Shaker led 21-10 with 2:22 left in the game. According to Plain Dealer High School Reporter Bob Fortuna, beating Solon would have been the biggest upset of the year. Shaker went on to beat John F. Kennedy 35-0 Sept. 1 and trounced Cleveland Central Catholic 49-20 on Sept. 8. Now that's improvement.

Coach Jarvis Gibson credited the improvement to the offseason workout program, which included study tables to make players eligible, weight room workouts, conditioning and teamwork to create trust between players. He also said that he "expected [the team]

to make some strides forward, to cut out some mental mistakes, and be more disciplined," before the season began.

Athletic Director Don Readance was very optimistic before the season began due to the dedication of the players and the offseason workout program, in which more than 50 students participated.

Putting a scare into Solon launched Shaker into the Plain Dealer High School poll at No. 25, and with their two wins Shaker now occupies the No. 23 spot. The Raiders lead the Valley Division of the Northeast Ohio Conference. The team boasts a .667 winning percentage. The last time Shaker was over .500 was Oct. 18, 2008.

Gibson is cautiously optimistic. "Rankings don't mean anything," he said, adding that the team made many mistakes most people don't see, such as blown coverages and misalignments. However, Gibson thinks the team will continue to progress throughout the season.

Readance said he expects it to be an exciting year, with seven to nine wins and the p-word a possibility because the remaining schools Shaker will play aren't as highly ranked as Solon. But Readance said the team "still has to play each game," and prove that the games against Solon, JFK and Central Catholic weren't flukes.

Women's Soccer, CC Look Ahead to NOC

ARI ROSS RAIDERZONE EDITOR

Welcome to the Northeast Ohio Conference, Shaker.

As of this fall, the high school has officially joined the NOC, replacing the Lakewood Rangers, who left the NOC at the end of 2010-2011. Before 2012-2013, Shaker was a member of the Lake Erie League. All Shaker sports, excluding field hockey, hockey and lacrosse, are now competing in the NOC.

According to Principal Michael Griffith, Shaker's move to the NOC was prompted when Mentor left the LEL in 2010, making the LEL a predominately African-American league, which Griffith said "didn't represent Shaker's diversity."

Athletic Director Don Readance said that when the opportunity arose, Shaker hadn't been actively looking to leave the LEL. However, when Lakewood left the NOC, Readance said he did some research on the conference and its member schools. Based on that research, Superintendent Mark Freeman made the ultimate decision to switch Shaker's affiliation to the NOC.

The conference brings new and improved competition to Shaker sports. Readance said that the conference will provide more competition in minor sports, such as soccer, tennis and golf, for which the LEL lacked adequate competition. The NOC's three-division setup, with team promotion and demotion from one division to another, will also provide more equitable competition for Shaker teams.

Women's soccer coach Tom Fowler believes the move will be a positive change. "The NOC will provide a more consistent and competitive league environment from year to year," he said.

Women's cross country coach Dave Englander expects the switch to bring out his team's competitive instincts. He said, "Because of the caliber of the other teams, I feel we will be more highly motivated for the championship."

SCOREBOARD!



The football team did not wait long to try out the "Victory!" feature available on the new scoreboard's digital scrolling display at Russell H. Rupp Stadium Sept. 8. The display celebrated the Raiders' second win of the season – a trouncing of Cleveland Central Catholic.

BRUCE JENNINGS

SWEETIE FRY

HAND-CRAFTED ICE CREAM
IMPOSSIBLY GOOD FRIES

FACEBOOK/SWEETIEFRY
YELP/SWEETIEFRY

2307 LEE ROAD • CLEVELAND HEIGHTS
OHIO 44118 • 216-932-2300

Shakerite.com

Available on the App Store

